

### III. Remarks

Applicant acknowledges withdrawal of the rejection over Subramanian '482, and notes that the latest Official Action presents claim rejections premised only on Section 112, second paragraph, to which rejections Applicant responds as follows:

Respecting the examiner's rejection of the term "olefinic," Applicant notes that "olefinic" is a recognized adjective of the noun "olefin." *See* Exhibit A (attached), taken from the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary at [www.m-w.com](http://www.m-w.com) (accessed 6 July 2004). Moreover, Applicant notes that the examiner lodged no objection to the same terminology during her examination of now-issued U.S. Pat. No. 6,670,421. As to the term "non-olefinic," the same is clearly defined in the specification at page 7. This fact notwithstanding, and in view of the fact that the said term adds no patentable weight to the affected claims, Applicant proposes by this paper to strike "non-olefinic" from the claims.

Turning then to claim 59, Applicant proposes also to remove the phrase "present in an amount below that required to provide effective functionalization for the polymeric components" therefrom.

Respecting the polyesters recited in claim 62, Applicant proposes by this paper to amend claim 60 to recite thermoplastic polyesters generally, rather than those of such polyesters derived exclusively from ethylene glycol. By such amendment, the species of claim 62, all comprising thermoplastic polyesters, are properly supported.

Applicant also proposes by this paper to amend claims 53, 56, and 66 to more broadly comprehend thermoplastic polyesters. Relatedly, new claims 67-70 are

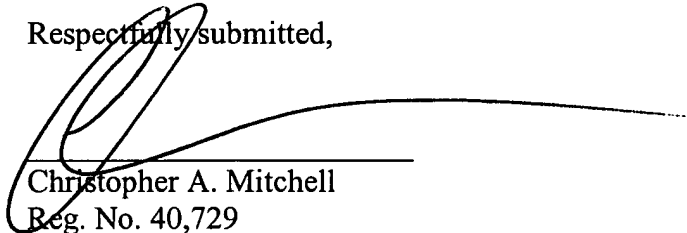
proposed, all of which recast the species of thermoplastic polyesters derived from ethylene glycol as a dependent limitation.

Turning to claim 66, Applicant has corrected the minor typographical error in line 1 by amending “us” to “use.” Applicant further proposes to amend claim 66 to remove the recitation of “polyamide” from line 5, thereby providing antecedent basis for the more expansive claim term “thermoplastic.” Applicant also proposes to recast the Markush group in correct format. Finally, Applicant proposes to amend “thermoplastic olefin” to “thermoplastic polyolefin” in line 11, thereby correcting the previous internal inconsistency in the claim terminology.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Of course, the examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned counsel at (734) 662-0270 if she should have any questions respecting this paper, or if a telephone interview might otherwise expedite the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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## Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary

One entry found for **olefin**.

Main Entry: **ole fin**

Pronunciation: 'O-l&-f&n

Function: *noun*

Etymology: International Scientific Vocabulary, from French (*gaz*) *oléfiant* ethylene, from Latin *oleum*

**1 : ALKENE**

**2 :** a synthetic fiber (as polypropylene) derived from an alkene

- **ole fin ic** /'O-l&-'fi-nik/ *adjective*

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EXHIBIT A